

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

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| Date of submission of the demand | Date of completion of this report |
| Name and mailing address of the IPEA/EP | Authorized officer |
| Facsimile No. | Telephone No. |

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY

International application No.

PCT/EP2004/012796

Box No. I Basis of the report

1. With regard to the **language**, this report is based on the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.
- ☐ This report is based on translations from the original language into the following language _____, which is the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of:
- ☐ international search (Rule 12.3 and 23.1(b))
- ☐ publication of the international application (Rule 12.4)
- ☐ international preliminary examination (Rule 55.2 and/or 55.3)
2. With regard to the **elements** of the international application, this report is based on *(replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report)*:
- ☐ the international application as originally filed/furnished
- ☒ the description:
- pages 1-12 _____ as originally filed/furnished
- pages* _____ received by this Authority on _____
- pages* _____ received by this Authority on _____
- ☒ the claims:
- nos. 2, 3, 5-8 _____ as originally filed/furnished
- nos.* _____ as amended (together with any statement) under Article 19
- nos.* 1, 4 _____ received by this Authority on 10.06.2005 with letter of 08.06.2005
- nos.* _____ received by this Authority on _____
- ☒ the drawings:
- sheets 1/3-3/3 _____ as originally filed/furnished
- sheets* _____ received by this Authority on _____
- sheets* _____ received by this Authority on _____
- ☐ a sequence listing and/or any related table(s) – see Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing.
3. ☐ The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:
- ☐ the description, pages _____
- ☐ the claims, nos. _____
- ☐ the drawings, sheets/figs _____
- ☐ the sequence listing (*specify*): _____
- ☐ any table(s) related to sequence listing (*specify*): _____
4. ☐ This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments annexed to this report and listed below had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed, as indicated in the Supplemental Box (Rule 70.2(c)).
- ☐ the description, pages _____
- ☐ the claims, nos. _____
- ☐ the drawings, sheets/figs _____
- ☐ the sequence listing (*specify*): _____
- ☐ any table(s) related to sequence listing (*specify*): _____

* If item 4 applies, some or all of those sheets may be marked "superseded."

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY

International application No.

PCT/EP2004/012796

| Box No. V | Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement | | |
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| 1. Statement | | | |
| Novelty (N) | Claims | <u>1-8</u> | YES |
| | Claims | <u></u> | NO |
| Inventive step (IS) | Claims | <u>1-8</u> | YES |
| | Claims | <u></u> | NO |
| Industrial applicability (IA) | Claims | <u>1-8</u> | YES |
| | Claims | <u></u> | NO |
| 2. Citations and explanations (Rule 70.7) | | | |
| <p>1. This report makes reference to the following document:</p> <p>D1: DE-A 100 37 004</p> | | | |
| <p>2. Novelty of independent claim 1:</p> <p>D1 is regarded as the prior art closest to the subject matter of claim 1. It discloses a method according to the preamble of claim 1.</p> <p>The subject matter of claim 1 differs, according to the characterizing part of the claim, from the method known from D1 in that every working roll has a barrel that is lengthened by the CVC displacement lift and has reverse grinding on one side in the area of the barrel edge, and when the displacement position of the displaceable working roll is predetermined as a function of the strip width, the working roll is positioned in different positions relative to the strip edge, and the displacement position of the</p> | | | |

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| | <p><u>working roll</u> is predetermined within different strip width ranges by means of a linear trial function for each piece.</p> <p>2.1 Therefore, the subject matter of claim 1 is novel (PCT Article 33(2)).</p> <p>3. Novelty of independent claim 4:</p> <p>D1 is regarded as the prior art closest to the subject matter of claim 4. It discloses a method according to the preamble of claim 4.</p> <p>The subject matter of claim 4 differs, according to its characterizing part, from the method known from D1 in that both the working and intermediate rolls each have a symmetrical barrel that is lengthened by the CVC displacement lift, overlaid with a curved roll contour having a CVC/CVC plus grind, and has a reverse grind (d) on one side.</p> <p>3.1 Therefore, the subject matter of claim 4 is novel (PCT Article 33(2)).</p> <p>4. Inventive step of claims 1 and 4:</p> <p>Claims 1 and 4 of the present application solve, in a non-obvious manner, the problem of covering the modes of operation of the CVC/CVC plus technology and of the technology of the strip edge-oriented displacement of</p> |

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| | <p>the rolls with a geometrically equivalent set of rolls for the working and intermediate rolls. Furthermore, the grind of the working rolls can have an effect directly on the roll gap, since it is transmitted not only indirectly via the intermediate roll.</p> <p>4.1 Therefore, the subject matter of claims 1 and 4 involves an inventive step (PCT Article 33(3)).</p> <p>5. Claims 2 to 3 and 6 to 8 are dependent on claims 1 and 4, respectively, and therefore meet the PCT requirements for novelty and inventive step.</p> <p>6. The polynomial n^{th} degree in claim 5 leads to an infinite number of possibilities. Such a definition lacks clarity within the meaning of PCT Article 6.</p> <p>7. The subject matter of claims 1 to 8 is industrially applicable without a doubt (PCT Article 33(4)).</p> |